

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed June 14, 2004. At the time of the Office Action, Claims 1-18 were pending in this application. Claims 9-18 were allowed, claim 7 was objected to, and claims 1-6 and 8 were rejected.

Objections to the Claims

Claim 7 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Independent claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of dependent claims 5, 6 and 7, and claims 5, 6 and 7 have been canceled.

Claim 9 was objected to because of informalities. Claim 9 has been amended as helpfully suggested by the examiner.

Rejections of the Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-6 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konopik et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,768,149) in view of Huang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,243,786). Claims 5 and 6 have been canceled.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include all limitations of allowable dependent claim 7 and intervening dependent claims 5 and 6. Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 2-4 and 8 depend from independent claim 1 and contain all limitations thereof.

Allowed Claims

Claims 9-18 were allowed.

All amendments are made in a good faith effort to advance the prosecution on the merits. Applicant reserves the right to subsequently take up prosecution on the claims as originally filed in this or appropriate continuation, continuation-in-part and/or divisional applications.

Applicant respectfully submits that no amendments have been made to the pending claims for the purpose of overcoming any prior art rejections that would restrict the literal scope of the claims or equivalents thereof.

Applicant respectfully requests that the amendments submitted herein be entered, and further request reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

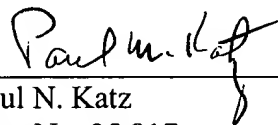
Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of all objections and rejections, and that there be an early notice of allowance.

SUMMARY

In light of the above amendments and remarks Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance and early notice of the same is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone or facsimile.

Applicant believes that there are no fees due in association with the filing of this Response. However, should the Commissioner deem that any fees are due, including any fees for extensions of time, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commissioner accept this as a Petition Therefor, and direct that any and all fees due are charged to Baker Botts L.L.P. **Deposit Account No. 02-0383, (formerly Baker & Botts, L.L.P.) Order Number 068354.1465.**

Respectfully submitted,
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